Today

Air Graft Program. Not Air Craft. How Many Great Men? Aguinaldo and Washington.

By ARTHUR BRISBANE.

Did you read carefully the report of the Congressional committee investigating the spending and stealing of money in connection with the so-called "aircraft" pro-gram of the United States Gov-

Can you imagine anything more discouraging for those that hope to see democratic government es-tablished finally on an honest

The Secretary of War chose ome of the richest citizens of the United States to spend the money contributed by all the people of the United States for the coun-

Perhaps he thought that because

they were rich they would be honest, being able to afford it.

The Government spent for flying machines a billion and a quarter, and all it actually got was 218 "clumsy, utterly dangerous" machines made by the Government, and 527 machines bought from the Allies. At \$20,000 spiece, more Allies. At \$20,000 apiece, more than it cost to make them, these machines should have cost less than fifteen million dollars, which leaves more than one thou-sand two hundred millions unac-

A few of the thousand millions are accounted for. Some worthless machines were built by ignoramuses, in one case with as many as a thousand changes in the These machines were

scrapped.

A highly honorable gentleman, extracted from Wall Street to help his country in time of war, is said by the Congressional committee to have built a railroad useful to another railroad in which he is a high official.

A second patriot is said to have squandered thirty millions.

Just how much was actually stolen nobody will know. Is it nobody's business to find out? Is there no one in the Government to take action when a Congressional committee publicity accuses men whom it names of squandering, appropriating to their own interests, or stealing more than one thousand millions of public money?

When the first appropriation for flying machines was made in Congress, this writer printed a paragraph in The Washington Times

"Six hundred millions for flying machines. How much of it for

graft?" Indignation was expressed that such base suspicion should exist. It turns out that the whole six hundred millions were for graft, and that wasn't enough. Six hun other millions were added

Men are shot in war for going tosleep, neglecting the interest of their country. Wouldn't it be justice if a few were shot for remaining wide awake, robbing their country, sending across the ocean flying machines that endangered lives and destroyed lives, and making a joke of the efficiency and honesty of so-called representative

Next Sunday the world will celebrate the birthday of George Wash-

It is cheerful to remember in these days of Wall Street patriots and thieves that the United States has had men that would not steal, no matter how tempting the opportunity. It is pleasing, also, for the comfort of many honest rich men that live in the United States today to remember that Washington was the richest man in the United States. This did not inspire him with any desire to rob his country and get more money.

How many really great men are there in history? Who can mention twenty - four, aside from science, art and literature, whose names will live a thousand years

Take out the fighters who dis-tinguished themselves by killing other men or whose successful wars forced knowledge on ignorant peoples and it is difficult to name

Washington undoubtedy will live not merely for what he did, estab-lishing that which, in numbers and wealth at least, is the great-est country in the world. He will live for what he himself was.

Public inability to estimate greatness, when close by, is illus-trated in this fact:

Twenty years ago, with the Spanish War still interesting us, there were newspapers of the would-be "better sort" actually comparing Washington with a

Today the average youthful per-son asks who Aguinaldo was. It seems hard to think that a half Chinese little gentleman, alleged to be on the Spanish payroll in addition to being a Filipino patriot, should be compared to Washing-

However, about a year ago hundreds of newspapers in the Unitod States were comparing cer-tain statesmen of our time with Washington and Lincoln, sometimes putting Washington second and Lincoln third in the patriotic

Time irons things out.

The Washington Times



NUMBER 11.446.

tonight; lowest tempera-ture about 24 degrees. Tomorrow fair; not quite so cold. Temperature at

Published every evening (including Sunday) WASHINGTON, THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 19, 1920. [Closing Wall Street Prices]

PRICE TWO CENTS

COURT GRANTS HEARST INJUNCTION

Shipping Board Now Convinced Its Policy Has Been Wrong, Stevens Tells Senators

Justice Bailey's Decision Forbidding Sale of Merchant Fleet

the teachers gathered he addressed

meet with the approval of the

After Dr. Van Schalck had finished

his address, Mr. Thurston was called

upon to speak. The superintendent was not a bit backward in telling the

posed to the Board of Education's re-

organization plan. Upon this an-

nouncement there were several rounds

of applause indicating the teachers

his stand in this matter. This has

Sensations Expected.

The Bruce case, the High School

'eachers' Union and the High School

Teachers' Association, and the Grade

School Teachers' Union purbably will

be injected into the latest school con-

Dr. Van Schaick to Thurston telling

the superintendent that he would not

be re-elected head of the school

Of late members of the Board o

Education have been making a prac-tice of holding "informal confer-

ences" to discuss the school situation

It was at one of these informal

inform Mr. Thurston that he had bet

ter look for another job. These con-

ferences seem to be one method of getting around the law, which pro-

vides that all meetings of the Board

The practice in the past has been to

discus matters affecting the public

in the secret conference preceding

the public meeting. By doing this the

board has an opportunity to decide

it does not wish the public to learn

Sensational revelations of method:

of the Board of Education may be

made as a result of the board's action

in sending to Ernest L. Thurston

superintendent of schools, a "curt'

note which in effect informed the su-

perintendent he was not wanted in

Thurston to Bring Expose.

probably at the one following that'

perintendent this morning.
Superintendent Thurston admitted

oday that the action of the board

came unexpectedly. He said he had no intimation whatever of any such

the public learned the truth about the

New candidates for the job will be

gin to loom up in a few days. Among these who are expected to be promi-

nent candidates for the superintend-ency are Stephen E. Kramer, assist-

Emory Wilson, principal of Central High School.

but this is hardly considered likely.

Decision to notify Mr. Thurston

that the majority members of the

next June was made at an "informal

conference" held in the home of D:

Van Schaick last Monday night. At

The Board of Education may seek a man outside of the school system,

"I'll have something to predict at

the District public school system.

of Education shall be held publicly

nferences that it was decided to

troversy, following the letter

when his term expires in June.

happened on several other occasions

behind the superintendent or

"At the hearing of the application for the issuance of a temporary injunction, counsel for the defendant waived for the purposes of such application, all question of the right in the plaintiff to bring this suit; and the sole question submitted to the court for decision is the legal one, whether the defendants are authorized by law to sell the ships described in the bill.

"After a careful examination of the statutes, I am of

the opinion that they do not show an intention on the part of Congress to place in the President, or in any of his appointees or subordinate agencies or in these defendants the power to sell these ships, and that no such power has been granted by Congress.

"An injunction as prayed in the bill will issue pendente lite.

"I should be glad to have suggestions from counsel as to the penalty of the injunction bond.'

REPLY READY

President Completes Draft and Gives It to Polk for Transmission.

> Wilson's Threat To Allies.

"The President would take into serious consideration the withdrawal of America from the Treaty of Versailles and from the treaty between the United States and France."—From Paris Adriatic crisis.

President Wilson today completed note in the dispute over the Adriatic settlement, and placed it in the hands of Acting Secretary of State Polk or transmission to Europe.

The President's answer is understood to be brief and to the point. He started work on it this morning, dictating it to a stenographer, and the completed document was taken to the State Department shortly before noon, it was learned at the White House.

Handled Reply By Himself.

Wilson handled the reply entirely without outside advice, so far as could e ascertained. The speed with which the record of the meeting, follows: he formulated it recalled the rapidity of exchange of notes preceding the armistice. The supreme council's com- and Bruce situation largely his remunication, which is understood to have invited suggestions for the and must obtain better administrator. President on settlement of the Flume problem, was delivered to him only last evening.

The President, it was reported, had decided not to make public the correpondence between himself and the supreme council until after the Adriatic situation has been satisfactoril adjusted.

President Wilson's original note, it as said, was dictated by him and transmitted through Secretary Lansing. The latter had nothing to do with it, beyond reading it before it was put on the cables. The Adriatic situation had no relation to the Wil-

on-Lansing clash, officials said.
The allied reply to Wilson's origilement, it is understood, invited suggestions from the President, while at he same time it sought to justify the steps already taken in the situation. The ultimatum to the Jugo-Slavs, ordering them to accept the proposed settlement has been held up because of President Wilson's protest, it was

earned. May Make Notes Public. The United States has cabled the the correspondence between President Wilson and the supreme council

may be made public. Meanwhile, it

is being withheld.

Belief here is that Italy is ready to accept a compromise. The last-min-ute interference of President Wilson in this instance angered Italy, acnewspapers received here, but it is predicted that the Rome government vill see it is better to take what it can get peacefully than have the final settlement delayed indefinitely.

CHARLESTON HOSPITAL DAMAGED BY BLAZE

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 19 .- Fire early today destroyed the mess hall and galley of the naval hospital hero. pread to the entire hospital and bedidden patients were removed. . The fire originated in the galley from a defective stove, it is believed

Board of Education Votes Seven to One For Ousting Thurston

By a vote of seven to one, Dr. Abram Simon dissenting, the Board of Education, in a special meeting held at noon today, decided to notify Ernest L. Thurston, superintendent of schools, that his services with the public school system would not be required or desired after June 30 next.

Reason for Action.

The Board's reasons for the action High School Teachers' Association, ollow: Mr. Thurston is not an able administrator.

He is reluctant to take full responsibility.

Differences between the superindent and the Board have reached the point where they cannot effectively work together.

A committee composed of Dr. John ent superintendent.

A committee composed of Dr. John ent superintendent.

Van Schaick, president; Charles P. Some time ago the Board of Educa-Neill, and Mrs. C. F. Cook, was tino formulated a plan of reorganizanamed to seek a successor to the present superintendent.

This plan was made public and the

present superintendent. Fountain Peyton, colored member teachers seemed to oppose it. Dr. Van of the board, was not present, and Schaick called a general meeting of was the only member of the board all the teachers at the Central High

The following resolution was adopt-

Resolved. That the best interests the public schools of the District of Columbia call for the election of a uccessor to Ernest L. Thurston as uperintendent of Schools, said election to be effective at the close of the

Thurston be not reappointed at the close of his present term, and that he advised by the secretary of

Votes by Telegraph.

Dr. H. C. Learned, member of the board, now lecturing in Stanford University, voted by telegraph. The telegram, which was put officially into "I could not vote for Thurston an other term under any condition. My mind made up last June. Wood case sponsibility. Convinced that we can gard him as impossible in situation."

Teachers Back Thurston. Teachers in the public schools favor

Mr. Thurston as superintendent, and look upon the action of the Board of Education with disapproval. This was the indication today after a the several unions and associations in the schools to determine just how Mr. Thurston is looked upon by the

faculties. There is little, if any, likelihood of the organizations taking any formal action, either to approve or disapof the local public school system. No union or association has ever kone on record as opposed to Thurston. It was stated today that

the superintendent had always shown

willingness to co-operate with the

eachers in every way possible. the Grade School Principals' Associa tion, said today that, in her opinion, every member of that association stood behind Mr. Thurston. She added that it appears to be the consensus of opinion that Mr. Thurston is the only man who could handle the job properly at this time. This assodation went on record several years ago as favoring Mr. Thurston George W. Ross, president of the

\$50,000,000 COST TO ENFORCE DRY LAW, ESTIMATE

It is conservatively estimated that it may cost the Government as much as \$50,000,000 to enforce national prohibition, Senator Warren, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, declared in the Senate this afternoon.

Stand to Go to President From Gompers.

Labor today decided to fight the their return to their owners March

While this decision was being reached at American Federation of Labor headquarters here today, with road executives were meeting with Rail Director Hines to discuss wages and other problems connected with return of the roads.

Gompers to Write Wilson. Labor's opposition to the railroad bill will be set forth, according to present plans, in a letter to President them. His address apparently did not president of the American Federation

of Labor. communication . was being framed today at a meeting attende by Gompers, B. M. Jewell, head of the federation's railway department, and officials of the big railway unions. The letter itself or a separate statement of labor's attitude may be

made public late today. Marshal For Battle.

Following publication of the letter abor leaders say they will marsha their friends in Congress for a battle on the bill which is to come up in the House Saturday and in the Senate next week. Sixteen members of the House are former labor union mer and others are known to be against

the Esch-Cummins measure.

Labor leaders today called the bil "hodge-podge" despite the fact that t sets up tribunals for wage disputes minus any compulsory feature One clause, however, provides for introduction of wage disputes before hese tribunals through petition by "unorganized" employes. This leaders say, is a discrimination against organized labor.

Behind the decision to fight th Esch-Cummins bill stands labor's desire for a two-year extension of Gov ernment control. Whether Gompers and railroad union heads still have hopes of accomplishing this in un They made known today, however

the Esch-Cummins bill to the President, seeking to have him veto it if it is passed by Corgress. The meeting of railroad executives with Hines today was taken as an ndication that Wilson has no present intention of changing his mind bout the return of the roads.

that they will carry their fight against

MARTIAL LAW DECREED IN THE SAAR DISTRICT

LONDON, Feb. 19.—Martial law has been declared in the Saar district of Germany, as a result of new disturbthe next board meeting-yes, and ances that have broken out there said an Exchange Telegraph dispatch -was the statement made by the surom Amsterdam today.

WILSON SOON TO GET BACK TO TYPEWRITER

President Wilson is expected soon writer, according to Dr. Grayson. The President's daily routine now includes an hour at his desk in his study be-fore his two-hour "airing" in the grounds of the White House,

EDWARDS PETITION FILED.

LINCOLN. Neb., Feb. 19 .- A partial Gov. Edward I. Edwards of New Jer. sey on the April 20 Democratic Presiboard did not favor his re-election dential preference ballot was filed with the secretary of state. The petition lacked the required number of signatures. It will be held to the secretary's office, and if suffi-

board present drew up a letter which don't additional signatures are re-was delivered to suprintendent Thurs- elved Governor Edwards' name will

(Continued on Page 21, Column 4.) be submitted to the voters.

Letter Outlining Organizations' Not An American on Board, Shipping Expert Tells Senate Probers.

Esch-Cummins bill which provides dollar-a-year expert with the Shipfor regulation of the railroads after ping Board during the war, directly repudiated the declaration of Chairnan John Barton Payne that the International Mercantile Marine, principal bidder for the ex-German ships. le a "100 per cent American concern; when he took the stand this morning before the Commerce Committee. "There is not an American on the I. M. M. board," he told the commit-

Mr. York further charged that the International Mercantile Marine offered the Shipping Board \$60 a ton gress." the Leviathan, while it was paying \$160 a ton in British water for ordi-

Says Chairman is Briton

"The chairman of the board of the M. M. Company is Harold A. San-lerson, a British subject, resident of London," Mr. York declared. "The president is P. A. S. Franklin, a citmittee includes Mr. Sanderson, o ondon; J. P. Morgan, Charles Steele, Mr. Morgan's partner, and E. C. Gren fell, Mr. Morgan's London partner another British subject and a resi-

dent of London. "The most valuable asset of the l M. M. are the fine steamers of the White Star line, every share of whose stock is deposited in the treasury of the I. M. M., the so-called American holding company; but the ex-ecutive committee, in absolute control of the operations of this company is Harold Samierson, chairman and managing director; E. C. Grenfell, president, Morgan's London partner; ord Pirrie, and Alexander Kerr, al four being British subjects. There In substantiating the claim that the German ships, if sold to the international Mercantile Marine would revert to the British flag, Mr. fork called the attention of the com-

when it absorbed certain Amer ican lines. Must Fly British Flag.

mittee to a stringent agreement in the laws of the corporation entered

The clause reads: "The British vessels shall remain British, not merely nominally, but in A majority of the directors of the English subsidiary companies hall always be of British nationality the vessel shall fly the British flag, their officers shall be British and a easonable portion of their crew shall the De e drawn from the same nation." By this agreement, binding for wenty years and renewable for five years more between the British go ernment and the new company York declared the "British au ies safeguarded the mainter

heir maritime supremacy." Mr. York said, as a rep (Continued on Page 2, C

Keeping Up The Tin

A FACT New York

evidence prosperit tions.

SHIPS, JURIST RULES Justice Thomas J. Bailey, of the District Supreme Court, today granted a temporary injunction in the suit of William Randolph Hearst against the Shipping Board and its officers, enjoining them from selling at auction thirty German ships, taken by the United States during the war. Counsel for plaintiff and defendants in all probability will confer with Justice Bailey tomorrow about fixing the bond to be given by Mr. Hearst. The date for the hearing

"The decision was no surprise," counsel for Mr. Hearst said after the court had rendered its verdict. "The suit was well founded and we were cetain of our position," they said.

to make the injunction permanent probably will be also set

"The judge declared the law as the law clearly is. Congress never authorized the sale of enemy alien ships. The President never authorized the sale of enemy alien ships. What Congress and the President did was to authorize the sale of domestic ships."

Congress Alone Can Sell Ships.

Justice Bailey, referring to the question of his said: "After a careful examination of the statutes the opinion that they do not show an intention of of Congress to place in the President or in appointees or in the defendants the power to ships, and that no such power has been grant

.Continuing, Justice Bailey said: "At the the application for the issuance of a temporary in counsel for the defendants waived for the purpose application all question to the right in the plaintiff this suit, and the whole question submitted to th decision is the legal one whether the defendants ized by law to sell the ships described in the b

"I should be glad to have suggestions from to the penalty of the injunction bond," he con-

Decision Comes as Surprise.

The decision was not expected until tom came as a surprise to counsel for both sides Bailey announced it today. Court attaches handing down today by saying that the con would hand down a decision by Friday," Bailey meant he would decide the temp that day, at the latest.

Neither counsel for Mr. H were in court when the decisi be served with papers sho afternoon.

The papers in the sui William A. DeFord, Jos Missouri, and the firm Hearst, last Friday.

An appeal from

injunction proceeding the Shipping Box